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A. CLASSIFICATIONS OF OBJECT TO BE REGISTERED IPK 7 C21D8/02 C21D1/19

B. RESEARCHED AREAS

Researched minimum test material (Classification system and classification symbols)

The International Search consulted electronic databases (Name of the database and possible search words used.) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
Х	PATENT ABSTRACT OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 12, October 31, 1998 (10-31-1998) & JP 10 195588 A (KAWASAKI STEEL CORP), July 28, 1998 (07-28-1998) Abstract	1,11
Α	EP 0 719 868 A (KAWASAKI STEEL CO) July 3, 1996 (07-03-1996)	
A	EP 0 072 867 A (KAWASAKI STEEL CO) March 2, 1983 (03-02-1983)	
Α	WO 97 39152 A (CENTRE RECH METALLURGIQUE; SCHMITZ ALAIN (BE); HERMAN JEAN CLAUDE) October 23, 1997 (10-23-1993)	

<u>X</u> Further Citation is to be taken from the continuation of field C.

X See Patent Family Appendix

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

- A: citation, which defines the general state of the art, but not particularly relevant
- X: particularly relevant if taken alone
- λ: technological background
- O: non-written disclosure
- P: intermediate document
- L: document cited for other reasons

- T: theory or principle underlying the
- Y: particularly relevant if

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- the same category
- E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
- D: document cited in the application

&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document

Date of completion of International Search Report June 23, 2000

Name and Address of International Searching Authority

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Examiner

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A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Page 1 of 2 International Application Number PCT/EP00/01517

C. (Continued) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate of relevant passages	Relevant to claim		
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 01, January 30, 1998 (01-30-1998) & JP 09 241790 A (NIPPON STEEL CORP), September 16, 1997 (09-16-1997) Abstract			

APPENDIX TO INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application Number PCT/EP00/01517

Listed in this appendix are members of the patent families in the above-mentioned patent document in the International Search Report.

These listings are for informational purposes only and are listed without any guarantee.

Listings in Search Report	Publication Date	Member of Patent Family	Publication Date
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EP 0072867 A	03-02-1983	JP 1401818 C JP 57137426 A JP 61011291 B DE 3270546 D WO 8202902 A US 4502897 A	09-28-1987 08-25-1982 04-02-1986 05-22-1986 02-09-1982 03-05-1985
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